

REMARKS

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1, 3, 4, 8 and 10 have been amended.

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Claim 4 has been amended to correct a typographical error; support for the amended language of Claim 4 can be found in the specification at page 3, paragraph 12.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) on the grounds of anticipation by Buell, disclosing a key locator including a key attachment means 14 and a tag 12 having a side imprinted with information. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate subject matter from Claim 3, and now recites "said at least one planar information card includes a grommet through a portion of said at least one planar information card, and said keychain is threaded through said grommet." It is respectfully submitted that Buell does not teach, disclose or suggest a planar information card including a grommet through a portion of the planar information card, and a keychain threaded through the grommet, as is claimed, and that Claim 1 is novel and inventive over Buell. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claim 1 on the grounds of anticipation by Buell should be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 9, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) on the grounds of obviousness from Buell, in view of keychains for a boater of the admitted prior art. The Examiner indicated that the admitted prior discloses a number of keychains used by boaters, and it is presumed that the Examiner is referring to the submission of photo prints of keychains for boaters submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement.

However, it is respectfully submitted that Buell and the photo prints of keychains for boaters do not teach, disclose or suggest a planar information card including a grommet through a portion of the planar information card, and a keychain threaded through the grommet, as is recited in Claim 1, as noted above. Claims 2, and 4-6 depend from Claim 1, discussed above. Claim 8 has similarly been amended to recite "said plurality of planar information cards includes a grommet through a portion of said plurality of planar information cards, and said keychain is threaded through said grommets to link said keychain and said plurality of planar information cards together." It is respectfully submitted that Buell and the photo prints of keychains for boaters do not teach, disclose or suggest a plurality of planar information cards each including a grommet through a portion of the planar information card, and a keychain threaded through the grommets to link the keychain and the plurality of planar information cards together, as is recited in Claim 8.

The Examiner indicated that it would be an obvious matter of choice to use more than one card in a keychain, but the Examiner did not indicate why it would be an obvious matter of choice to modify Buell or any of the keychains for boaters in the photo prints submitted. It is respectfully submitted that there is no teaching, disclosure, suggestion or motivation in Buell to duplicate the tag in Buell, which is disclosed as containing four different types of identification information, providing all of the identification information necessary. The photo prints of keychains for boaters discloses information that would unnecessarily be duplicated by providing multiple tags, so that it does not appear that there is any useful motivation for modifying Buell or any of the

keychains for boaters in the photo prints submitted as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 9, 11 and 12 depend from Claim 8. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 9, 11 and 12 are novel and inventive over Buell and the keychains for boaters in the photo prints submitted, taken either individually or in combination, and that the rejection of Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 9, 11 and 12 on the grounds of obviousness from Buell in view of keychains for a boater of the admitted prior art should be withdrawn.

Claims 3, 7 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) on the grounds of obviousness from Buell, in view of keychains for a boater of the admitted prior art, and further in view of Bishop, which discloses a holder for a slot club member card. Bishop discloses a flat plastic card holder 1 with a hole 11 having an encircling grommet 13, and a slot information card with a hole therethrough without a grommet. The feature of the grommet has been moved from Claim 3 to Claim 1, which recites "said at least one planar information card includes a grommet through a portion of said at least one planar information card, and said keychain is threaded through said grommet." Bishop clearly does not teach, disclose or suggest a planar information card including a grommet through a portion of the planar information card, and a keychain threaded through the grommet, as is now recited in Claim 1.

Claim 7 recites "each of said plurality of planar information cards includes a grommet through a portion of said planar information cards, and said keychain comprises a closeable metal keychain threaded through said grommets to link said keychain and said plurality of planar information cards together." Bishop also fails to teach, disclose or suggest a plurality of planar information cards each with a grommet, and a closeable

metal keychain threaded through the grommets to link the keychain and said plurality of planar information cards together. Similarly, Claim 8 has been amended to include the feature of the grommets from Claim 10, and recites "each of said plurality of planar information cards includes a grommet through a portion of said plurality of planar information cards, and said keychain is threaded through said grommets to link said keychain and said plurality of planar information cards together." As is discussed in the specification at page 3, paragraph 13, the linking of a plurality of information cards by a keychain through grommets of the information cards allows the information cards to fan out for easy reading. The Examiner indicated that it would be desirable to provide the card in Buell with a reinforcement to prevent its early failure. However, Buell does not teach this, leaving the information card with an unreinforced hole. Claim 3 depends from Claim 1, and Claim 10 depends from Claim 8. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 3, 7 and 10 are novel and inventive over Buell, the photo prints of keychains for a boater, and Bishop, taken either individually or in combination, and that the rejection of Claims 3, 7 and 10 on the grounds of obviousness from Buell, in view of keychains for a boater of the admitted prior art, and further in view of Bishop, should be withdrawn.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application should now be in condition for allowance, and an early favorable action in this regard is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By: 

James W. Paul
Reg. No. 29,967

JWP/rvw

Encls.: Return Postcard

Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201